

Boston, 11 P. M.,

Feb. 8/59.

Dear friend Webb -

'Man proposes,' &c. I
did think, & expect, to write
you a letter by the ship of
tomorrow. But the mail
closes at 9 A. M., and all
the time I could command is
consumed on the 2 letters going
herewith - to Edinburgh & Perth.
But I leave the former open,
& will be glad to have you take
the trouble to read it over. You
will gather from it some
notion of the success of the Festival,
and of what we have been doing

otherwise, — and you will
see, too, how fully I can
now sympathise in your
feelings, when your son breaks
away from his home to go to
distant Australia. Now I
have a boy on the wide
waters, — and who can say
when we shall look upon
his face again? —

I trust you & your family
are well. I am long owing
you a letter, upon our account
especially, & will endeavour
very soon to attend to it,

You will rejoice with us in the very fair success of the financial Anniversary. Near or quite \$6000., with expenses to come out of only \$350. - this is surely better than \$5000., with expenses of \$800. to \$1000. Our heads will not be turned by ^{our} success, I think; but we shall be emboldened for the work before us.

Our Annual Meeting was very interesting - very bold & earnest - and most heartily responded to. Not a press in Boston reviles or slanders us to-day - the Boston Courier only excepted, & I had nearly forgotten that, - The papers which used to get subscribers by lying about us, & caricaturing our

meetings, now find it pays to
give a fair & truthful report of
what is said and done. — Our
work of petitioning our State Legislature
to prohibit, under heavy penalties,
the claim in, or delivery of, any
person as a slave, within this
Commonwealth, has been a very
good work. Many towns have taken
bold hearts, and sent up an
overwhelming number of names
in support of the Petition. Cal
Cushing, the Democratic (!) leader
in our Legislature, — the ready tool
of ~~Mr. Buchanan~~ & the Slave Power
is ~~generally~~ scandalised thereby.

All right,

With affectionate
regard, Yours

S. May Jr.

her letter is
When read, please
forward to Eliza

Wigham — I send a 'Queen's head' for the same